FBIS DAILY REPORT

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SLUGGISHNESS IN ANDEAN PACT PROGRESS DECRIED

PA101938 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Excerpts] The foreign ministers of the Andean countries--Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador--have begun an evaluation here covering the 10 years of life of the Cartagena Agreement. During the opening and working sessions the participants noted that substantial progress has been made in the integration process but not to the extent expected.

Rafael Garcia Velasco, coordinator of the Cartagena Agreement Board, the technical body in charge of implementing this process, spoke along the same lines:

[Begin Garcia recording] The member countries have been slow to adopt and implement this mechanism. Only three sector industrial development programs have been approved--the metal-mechanic program in 1972, the petrochemical program in 1975 and the automotive program in 1977.

Implementation of the first program has been limited. Every country is producing goods that were [words indistinct] assigned to other countries. None of the member countries has fully complied--naturally, some to a lesser extent than others--with the commitment not to encourage local production of goods assigned to other countries. This, and the need to incorporate Venezuela into this program, led the board to submit Proposal 89 to the commission in October 1977 and Proposal 100 in October 1978. It will submit a new proposal this month that is expected to help correct maladjustments that have been caused and to enable Venezuela to participate in the metal-mechanic program.

Possibly because of its technological complexity, the substantial investments it demands and the long period required for completion of its complementary projects, the petrochemical program has been implemented only partially, to a limited degree. As a result of a recent evaluation, the board will submit a proposal to change and to give more impetus to this program. [end recording]

The foreign ministers will hold two more working sessions today and will close the conference this evening.

ROJAS SEES BRAZILIAN 'OFFENSIVE' IN PARANA BASIN

PY102132 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1251 GMT 10 May 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 May (NA)--Adm Isaac Rojas (ret) stated that the "basic objective of Brazilian policy" is to isolate and weaken Argentina, but that we cannot oppose Brazil's major objectives "as long as they do not affect our own security and defense and those of the other countries" of the River Plate basin.

In one of his routine lectures, given yesterday at the Argentine Social Museum, Rojas asserted that there can be no opposition to those Brazilian objectives "as long as they do not attack us by hampering or hindering navigation on the river waters below and above Itaipu." There can also be no opposition, he added, "as long as the technical and scientific disagreements regarding the projects in the Guaira Gorge are not converted into a real geopolitical, geostrategic and geoeconmic offensive aimed at the heart of the Republic of Argentina to bring about and complete its isolation and weakening, which is the basic objective of Brazilian policy."

The former provisional vice president commented on the book "Brazilian Geopolitics" by Golbery do Couto e Silva. Rojas said: "Itaipu and Corpus, built without coordination (and this has been the unyielding Brazilian attitude so far), are the most effective geopolitical defensive barrier, to which the Brazilian writer refers." In this case Couto e Silva speaks of a Portuguese-Brazilian foreign policy based on the safeguarding of distant borders and the assertion of national sovereignty "by means of a wise arrangement of defense centers which strategically block all openings for penetration from abroad.

"But," Rojas stated, "for the Parana River basin, and particularly for Argentina" the process becomes clearly "offensive," since, even though a height of 105 or 108 meters for Corpus may guarantee an acceptable profit in the supply of hydroelectric power, "it will not give us any effective protection against changes which will possibly be introduced in the water level." "And this is despite the agreements made by Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay," said Rojas, who maintained that "the only defense, the only security against a Brazilian geopolitical offensive," is a wall of at least 120 meters for Corpus.

FLOODING ON PARAGUAY, PILCOMAYO RIVERS CRITICAL

PY101725 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1625 GMT 19 May 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 May (TELAM)--The operations office of the Argentine naval prefecture has reported that an inspection of the Alvarez, Olimpo and 9 de Julio islands in Formosa Province reveals that the flooding of the Paraguay and Pilcomayo rivers is critical, and that if the water level increases 20 more centimeters a massive evacuation will have to be made. The report indicates that 653 persons have been evacuated so far from Olimpo, Buey Muerto and 25 de Mayo islands.

The level of the Paraguay River has increased 5 centimeters to 5.58 meters. It should be recalled that the normal level of this river is 4.5 meters, and when it reaches 5.48 meters an evacuation must be carried out. The level in Formosa was 5.97 meters, 4 centimeters more than yesterday.

The Pilcomayo subprefecture sent a patrol boat to San Isidro and 25 de Mayo islands to provide health assistance. Private boats and medical services in the area also joined in distributing food. The ferry between Pilcomayo, and Ita Enramada, Paraguay, is only carrying trucks and buses, and the San Ignacio de Loyola international bridge is handling light vehicles.

PAPAL REPRESENTATIVE INTERVIEWED ON BEAGLE TALKS

PY111419 Paris AFP in Spanish 0748 GMT 11 May 79 PY

[Text] Bahia Blanca, Argentina, 10 May (AFP)--Msgr Antonio Samore, who represents Pope John Paul II in the Argentine-Chilean border dispute, categorically denied today that he had been pressured by one of the parties involved in the dispute. "I have not been subjected to any kind of pressure from either of the parties," the prelate stated in an interview on a local radio station. The station had a telephone conversation with the cardinal to ask him about a recent statement issued in Tucuman by Argentine President Jorge Videla, who said that "all alternatives are valid if the papal mediation fails."

Asked how long this stage of negotiations on the Beagle Conflict will take, Cardinal Samore said he could not answer. He noted: "I can only say that negotiations are underway. We believe it will take time. That is why I cannot say whether it will take 6 or 9 months or perhaps 1 year. He added: "With the help of God, and particularly with the good will of all those involved in the issue, I trust that we will achieve a just solution."

NAVAL COMMANDER DISCUSSES POLITICAL SOLUTION

PY111337 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 11 May 79 PY

[Excerpts] The commander of the navy, Adm Armando Lambruschini, began an inspection tour of the Puerto Belgrano naval base yesterday, a tour that will end today.

Admiral Lambruschini gave a press conference yesterday. He said: We are studying an overall political plan that will permit the normalization of the country based on the objectives set by the documents of this process. The armed forces are involved in a great commitment. Those who believe this is only an idea of reorganization are wrong. In saying this I am making a great difference between a simple renewal of political activity and a political solution. For me the renewal of political activity alone is no longer valid. Our commitment is a political solution based on the documents of the process.

STATE IMPOUNDS PROPERTIES OF PERON, LOPEZ REGA

PY102102 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1815 GMT 10 May 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 May (NA)--Federal Judge Martin Anzoategui today ruled that the Gaspar Campos residence in Vicente Lopez, owned by former President Juan Domingo Peron, is to become state property in line with the provisions of the institutional responsibility act. At the same time, the judge sent a court committee, headed by a federal court secretary, to Brasilia to negotiate with the government of that country the impounding of lands that belong to former Social Welfare Minister Jose Lopez Rega.

The Gaspar Campos residence was entrusted to the National Commission for Patrimonial Recovery, which will "administer, guard and preserve it."

GOVERNMENT TO TAKE STRONG STAND AT DISARMAMENT SESSION

PY110302 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 May 79 p 14 PY

[Text] Brasilia--During the next meeting of the disarmament committee, scheduled to meet in Geneva in June, the 40 member states will dedicate 2 full weeks to the study of measures to restrict the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons. This was the only practical result of the proposal, presented last month by Brazil on behalf of the Group of 21, to create a subcommittee to deal with the matter.

The Group of 21--acutally the numb r has grown--consists of countries who are part of the disarmament committee but who do not belong to defense groups such as the Warsaw Pact or NATO. In addition to Asian and African nations, the group includes five Latin American countries, among them Brazil. Its members take turns in exercising the presidency of the group. During April leadership was in the hands of the Brazilian representative, Counsellor Afonso de Ouro Preto.

Acting as president of the group, Ouro Preto presented a proposal requesting establishment of a subcommittee, within the structure of the disarmament committee, to study ways to prohibit the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons. This proposal reflects the opinion of the group in the sense that negotiations on this subject between the United States and the Soviet Union were insufficient.

Therefore the group's proposal seeks to expand the scope of the discussions, thus avoiding a solution to the matter by the two superpowers in accordance with their own specific interests by having them present their proposals to the other members of the disarmament committee. However, during the voting the proposal was defeated and the only concession achieved by the group was to have a specific discussion of the matter during the next session.

Next June, when the second session of the disarmament committee begins--the first began in January of this year--the Brazilian delegation will be headed by Ambassador Celso Souza e Silva. In accordance with instructions from Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro himself, Brazil will maintain a firm stand against disarmament, and especially against arbitrary measures by the superpowers over the other members of the committee.

The basic principles of the Brazilian position have not changed. The country continues to oppose the stockpiling of weapons, especially nuclear weapons. According to various pronouncements by Brazilian delegates to the United Nations, Brazil believes disarmament should begin with nations which possess large war arsenals, since it doesn't make sense "to disarm unarmed nations." Especially with regard to chemical and bacteriological weapons, Brazil adamantly opposes their use and defends the need for the subject to be studied separately from other types of weapons.

For the next 2-week session to debate this type of weapon, Ambassador Souza e Silva received specific instructions from Itamaraty to oppose their use categorically and to express the Brazilian position that the matter should be discussed on a broad international level, and not just by the United States and the Soviet Union.

MINISTER ADDRESSES WORKERS ON STRIKE ACTIONS

PY110235 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2300 GMT 10 May 79 PY

[Statement by Labor Minister Murilo Macedo from Brasilia on 10 May--presumably recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow workers: The number of strikes has increased markedly among the various categories of workers in this early stage of the Figueiredo administration, especially in large cities. The strikers did not even wait for the government to organize, to set up its guidelines, especially those aimed at benefiting the Brazilian people, primarily the workers' just demand for good wages. The government has only the serene, honest purpose of fulfilling its commitment to democratize the country through dialog and understanding.

In keeping with this purpose, it has been attending to the solution of social problems without fully enforcing the laws governing strikes. These laws were applied to the steelworkers and to the Federal District teachers only after exhausting every alternative for negotiation. Several wage agreements were concluded directly by workers and employees, at levels even higher than officially established ceilings. In some cases, the government acted as a mediator, and even as a steadfast guardian, to prevent wage increases from being passed on to the consumers, that is, to the people themselves. Despite all this, in 55 days of government we have had more than 100 strikes, many based on impossible demands. Some demanded a 200-percent wage increase, which reveals their absolute indifference to a major objective of the entire nation--to curb inflation for the benefit of the working class itself.

Let us talk about the right to strike, since there are few (?more important) things I, as labor minister, should discuss with you, my fellow Brazilian workers. The right to strike is guaranteed by our Constitution in Article 165, but it does not permit strikes by workers performing essential public services. Article 2 of Law 4,330 states that a strike--that is, the temporary, massive suspension of services to the employer--is legal when it is approved at a general assembly of workers interested in improving their working conditions, which is, therefore, the objective of the strike.

Law 4,330 established the following basic requirements to call a strike: Publication of notices of the meeting in the local press with a 10-day minimum leadtime, to meet the required quorum to hold the assembly; two-thirds at the first call, one-third at the second call and one-eighth for those unions having more than 5,000 members; and secret voting. Incidentally, we should mention that the ABC steelworkers decided to call a strike by acclamation, which was obviously a violation of Law 4,330. Another basic requirement is that the vote counting at this assembly should be presided over by a labor prosecutor or by a person designated by the labor attorney general or regional attorneys. The workers must also notify their employers and the appropriate officials. Finally, the deadline for negotiations should be 5 days.

Article 22 of Law 4,330 states that a strike will be illegal if: It fails to meet the deadlines and conditions established in this law; it seeks demands that were ruled out by a labor court within the previous year; it is prompted by political, party, or religious motives to either express support or solidarity without any demand which may be of direct, legitimate interest to the workers involved; it is primarily designed to violate union agreements, labor collective contracts or labor court rulings in force; or if the basic objectives of the strike were to be substantially distorted. This law is not applicable to strikes by workers performing public or essential services, since these are always illegal because they are expressly banned by Article 165 of the Constitution.

Various groups are inciting workers to become more radical, seeking to gain their assistance and support for other objectives. We have definitely found that throughout the development of these movements, persons and organizations who do not belong to the working class have actively participated in them. Such was the case with the Sao Paulo busdrivers, whose meeting was truly representing the class. Many of these extraneous organizations, by inciting workers to act more radically, intend to disturb the country's peace and tranquillity through systematic defiance of the government. These organizations go as far as encouraging radical changes in the political, economic and social system. Strikers and strike support groups come out with pre-established schemes and with leaders placed at strategic points to mobilize the working class on convenient occasions. We have learned that picket lines are manned mostly by members of the Socialist Convergence. Strike commands for the purpose of replacing union leaderships have been formed, to resort to violence and psychological pressure, even against the families of those who want to work. Claiming the right to strike, they disregard the right of others to work and to negotiate. The government cannot permit the true interests of the workers to be used as a springboard for the spurious interests of radical groups at the service of ideologies opposed to the character of the Brazilian people.

Despite all the legislation at its disposal, the government, with its intention not to disrupt the process of political liberalization, has acted with moderation to show its attitude of reconciliation and tranquillity in facing present difficulties. Regarding the ABC unions and the Federal District teachers union, I can say that the legislation authorized the application of more drastic measures, even the cancelation of their union registry, as I said before.

The government and society are interested in the development of the country, and they want to find a balance between the justly urgent demands of the workers and the real capacity of the Brazilian economy to meet them. Those demands should not upset that balance, thus threatening the existing climate of peace and order that is the foundation for economic development. We have tried to be as lenient as possible without going against the law. We will try to do as much as we can for the workers without endangering our struggle against inflation, and especially without disrupting the labor order and the peace of the Brazilian people. Thank you very much.

ABC Strike Resumption

PY101540 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 May 79 PY

[Excerpts] The National Auto Manufacturers Association has distributed a note to its associated companies urging them to pay salaries for the month of April without withholding a percentage for the strike days. The note explains that this measure is to be adopted at the request of Labor Minister Murilo Macedo, since it was because of the 20-percent reduction for the strike days in March that the ABC metalworkers resumed their strike yesterday.

[Words indistinct] reporter (Jose Roberto Marques) reports directly from the ABC region on this new stoppage and about Lula's [Jose Ignacio da Silva, former chairman of the Sao Bernardo Metalworkers Union] cynicism regarding an agreement between employers and employees.

[Begin relay] Thousands of ABC metalworkers received their pay yesterday with a 20-percent reduction for the days of strike, according to provisions imposed by the state Federation of Industries. The attitude has created a climate of general dissatisfaction and revolt among the workers to the point of creating new stoppages at the Ford and Chrysler factories and the (Vilares) Company in Sao Bernardo involving approximately 18,000 metalworkers. Lula, what can you tell us about the stoppages yesterday in Sao Bernardo do Campo?

[Answer] It was the beginning of a general revolt over the 20-percent reduction from their salaries for the strike days [words indistinct] workers stopped activities, and I feel that their position is correct. But an official note has been distributed by the companies, including an appeal by the labor minister urging the companies to reimburse for the reduction tomorrow or Friday at the latest. [passage indistinct] [end relay]

CP LEADER URGES UNITED OPPOSITION TO GOVERNMENT

LD101419 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 4 May 79 p 8 LD

[Interview in Paris with Brazilian Communist Party Secretary General Luis Carlos Prestes; no date given]

[Text] Is Brazil becoming redemocratized? Luis Carlos Prestes says: "The development of the mass movement, the strengthening of the opposition, the extremely serious economic situation and the international environment have brought about the new situation Brazil is now experiencing. Despite the definition of the constituency boundaries, which penalized the major densely-populated industrial centers, and the government's use of the news media, the 1978 elections confirmed an enormous popular current in favor of the opposition. In the Senate elections, the Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB) gained 5 million votes more than the government party. An impressive figure, bearing in mind that not so long ago attendance at an opposition meeting could have endangered one's personal safety."

The changes that have taken place in Brazil," Luis Carlos Prestes continues, "are positive, but the actual nature of the regime remains unchanged. We must take advantage of every opportunity. They are important and varied. It is in the interests of all sectors of the Brazilian population, the working class of course, but also the bosses. In any case some of the bosses have demanded the PCB's legalization. Popular pressure is enormous."

Are these changes reversible?

"I do not think so," Luis Carlos Prestes tells us, adding: "These changes are secure. They are gains that would be difficult to challenge. But it must be stressed that the government still has control of the legal and material resources, the machinery of repression.

"We are living in a transition period with a trend favorable to democracy, as a result of popular pressure, and specifically the strength of the workers movement.

It must be acknowledged that in this new situation the level of mass organization and awareness is still inadequate. We note considerable progress, particularly in the working class, as shown by the recent actions by the metalworkers. But there is still much to be done. In fact we are now experiencing the first spectacular results of the long process of the building up of the opposition forces, a process begun following the 1964 coup d'etat."

With regard to the much-vaunted liberalization in Brazil, the PCB secretary general tells us: "The first measure must be a general amnesty for everyone. This will create the best conditions for real national reconciliation, with the participation of all Brazilians. Until this measure is taken there will be no real liberalization. General Figueiredo promises an amnesty but with restrictions. If the new president wants credibility, he must pass the entrance examination, which consists of matching words with deeds."

On the subject of unity of the opposition and the government's proposal to create political parties, Luis Carlos Prestes points out: "The MDB was created by the dictatorship. An aritificial creation. An authorized opposition. But since 1974 the MDB has changed into a major mass party, grouping together all opposition currents, including the communists. The MDB is now a force that enjoys organized mass grassroots. This explains the government's attempt to split what constitutes a threat to its survival.

"As for the maneuver of proposing the creation of new parties, it is transparent--its aim is to split the opposition.

"We communists are at present struggling for unity of the MDB. And until full freedom is reestablished in Brazil we will struggle for unity of the opposition. All political currents, including the communists, have the right to organize, but for the time being a front must be formed. The essential thing is to maintain unity."

BRIEFS

OIL PRODUCTION--According to figures released by PETROBRAS, overall oil production decreased 2.04 percent from January to April in relation to the same period in 1978. Onshore oil field production decreased 6.03 percent, while maritime production increased 9 percent. During the first 4 months of the year the country produced 19.6 million barrels of oil, against 20.07 million during the same period last year. Onshore production amounted to 14.1 million barrels during the same period, while maritime production amounted to 5.5 million barrels. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 May 79 p 20 PY]

HOG CHOLERA--New outbreaks of hog cholera may be affecting the state. This report was made this morning at the plenary session of the legislative assembly by (Aldo Pinto) of the Brazilian Democratic Movement. He said he received a telephone call from a swine breeder who lives in Itaipu, Sarandi, who said 209 swine had died and 300 more show symptoms of hog cholera. An Agriculture Secretariat official will leave today for Sarandi to verify the problem. If he confirms new outbreaks, the government will take measures to avoid its spread. Only three cases of swine fever were detected this year but laboratory tests proved that they were only of the cholera type [tipo clasico]. The deputy also said only the laboratory at Ilha do Fundo in Rio de Janeiro will guarantee whether it is African swine fever or just hog cholera. [Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 4 May 79 PY]

RESTRICTIONS ON LABOR UNION ACTIVITIES EASED

FY110150 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 May 79 FY

[Text] The command of the Emergency Zone issued an edict abrogating all regulations on union and other activities and meetings established by two edicts issued in August 1975 and April 1977. The former of these two edicts empowered officials to grant permission for cultural, religious, university and union activities and meetings. The second amended the first and gave governors, or officials appointed by them, the power to allow meetings of neighborhood committees. Today's edict refers to the provisions of Decree Law No 2,620 issued on 2 May and applies to meetings of labor organizations at their union headquarters after working hours.

CHILEAN-BOLIVIAN BORDER GROUP TO RESUME MEETINGS

FY110256 Paris AFP in Spanish 2319 GMT 10 May 79 FY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 10 May (AFP)--The Foreign Ministry reported here today that the joint Chilean-Bolivian border commission will meet within 3 weeks after a 2-year recess. The technical organization, in charge of observance of the boundary agreements between the two countries, will meet in the north Chilean city of Arica between 31 May and 5 June. An official communique reported that in this way the consultations interrupted in 1977 will be resumed.

The Arica meeting will be chaired by Chilean Col Alejandro Forch, and the Bolivian delegation will be headed by Gen Oscar Wilde. Bolivia broke off diplomatic relations with the Santiago government on 17 March 1978 after an impasse in negotiations to obtain an outlet to the Pacific Ocean passing through Chilean territory.

CHILEAN-PRC PROJECT IN ANTARCTICA EXPLAINED

FY101354 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 May 79 FY

[Rafael Kistainer commentary]

[Text] The Chilean Foreign Ministry, specifically Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos, explained yesterday that the Chilean Government has not signed any agreement with the PRC for exploitation of resources on the Antarctic Continent. This explanation was issued in view of Argentine press reports that expressed concern over an agreement between Chile and the PRC concerning the Antarctic.

The statement issued by Foreign Minister Cubillos adds that Chile has not signed any such agreement. What all this is really about--and those of us who went with Minister Cubillos to the PRC last October were informed about it from the very beginning--is that PRC scientists will participate in Chilean Antarctic expeditions to acquire information about the continent. Moreover, this will be done, as is fitting, within Chilean Antarctic territory, which is between meridians 56 and 90 west.

We do not mind if other countries, such as Argentina is doing, invite Bolivian scientists to study part of Argentine Antarctic territory outside meridians 53 and 90. Therefore no one should be concerned if scientists from the PRC, from Norway or from anywhere else live or carry out scientific experiments in our Antarctic territory. Our Argentine neighbors, who have been very concerned lately, and everyone else should be more calm.

PARTIES EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT

PA102001 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Text] Total support for President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's government was expressed by the National Liberal Party directorate and members of the two conservative directorates--the Ospino-Pastranist and Alvarist groups. Agreement in this regard was expressed in a seven-point document drafted during a meeting held in the Yellow Room of the national capitol. Liberals and Conservatives have not reached an agreement of this magnitude in more than 6 years. After declaring that they fully support the work of the present government, the leaders of the two traditional parties decided to call on the first committees of the Senate and the Chamber of Representatives to initiate, beginning 1 June, a review of the congress itself and of the system for the administration of justice.

AUTHORITIES ISSUE COMMUNIQUE ON MISSING YOUTH

PA101955 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Excerpts] A communique issued by Rafael Poveda Alonso, director of the DAS [Administrative Department of Security], states that the student is free and in good health according to a letter and a telegram which he sent his parents from the neighboring town of (Sipaquira), where he is visiting his son. A test which confirms the authenticity of the letter has been sent to Tunja archbishop Augusto Trujillo, who is in solidarity with the occupants of the cathedral, to advise them to leave the cathedral, the communique adds.

Meanwhile, the students remain in the church, where they have established brigades in charge of food supply, security, recreation and so forth for the duration of the occupation. Tunja police chief Col Eduardo Pinilla has repeated that he will not use force to evict the students so long as they remain calm. He said that no reprisals will be taken against them. While awaiting a solution to the problem, detachments of police are maintaining tight control in the streets of Tunja and the area around the cathedral.

Peaceful Departure from Cathedral

PA110250 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 May 79 PA

[Text] Tunja, Colombia--The 300 students who had occupied the Tunja cathedral began to leave it at 1800. Some of the students left for their homes while others went to the teachers university. After occupying the cathedral for 3 days, the university students held an assembly and decided to leave the cathedral and transfer the solution of the problem to the university where they will continue to demand to know the whereabouts of fellow student Hernando Benitez Lopez. The students left the cathedral peacefully in view of the army brigade's promise that it would not take reprisals against the students who held the country's attention for 72 hours. The students left in vehicles without any incident.

BRIEFS

TYPHOID EPIDEMIC--The Colombian Government has admitted that the epidemic registered in Caqueta intendancy is typhoid fever. A medical commission has been sent to cope with the outbreak. [Bogota Cadena Radio Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 May 79 PA]

HARVEST ESTIMATE--The National Coffee Growers Federation has estimated the value of the 1978-1979 coffee harvest at 47.7 billion pesos. During the first quarter of this year, sales have reached a record amount of 3,156,162 60-kg sacks of coffee. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 May 79 PA]

INDEXING OF OIL PRICES TO MANUFACTURED GOODS

PA110027 Paris AFP in Spanish 2235 GMT 9 May 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 9 May (AFP)--Venezuela will propose the indexing of the price of oil, according to an announcement made today by Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti. He made the statement only hours before leaving on an 18-day tour of seven oil-producing countries of the Middle East and northern Africa. The system would index the price of oil to a basket of products manufactured by the industrialized countries. "The price of oil will increase as much as the average price of the manufactured goods increases," said Calderon.

He explained that this system will prevent in good part the deterioration of the exchange value of oil and recalled that the latest increases made by OPEC have always been below the increase in the price of manufactured goods. "Oil had lost 40 percent of its exchange value when we increased its price 15 percent," he said. He added that oil is paid for with "devalued" dollars which have less purchasing power. He said that "at 1974 prices what we are receiving today is the equivalent to between $8 and $9, that is, less than 5 years ago."

Calderon left tonight on a tour that will take him to Algeria, Libya, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, all members of OPEC together with Venezuela. In those countries Calderon will present to the monarchs or heads of state a message from Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins reaffirming the purpose to strengthen the relations among the OPEC member countries and expressing his concern for the effect of the price increases on the poorest countries of the third world.

Calderon Berti announced that, at the next OPEC meeting in Geneva at the end of June, Venezuela will propose an increase of $800 million in the special OPEC fund for aid to the third world and a liberalization of the conditions so that the fund's soft loans will reach a larger number of countries. He also mentioned the possibility of establishing an OPEC bank with the same objectives but with the advantage that the financial markets could be used to obtain resources, which cannot be done with the fund.

DIRECT PETROLEUM SALES TO CANADA TO BE MADE

PA100410 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 9 May 79 PA

[Text] The sale of Venezuelan petroleum to Canada continues in a normal manner, a Venezuelan Petroleum Company spokesman said. He said that relations with the Canadian State Petroleum Enterprise are developing in a harmonious climate. The spokesman said that Canada is an important market for Venezuelan petroleum. He said that the Venezuelan Government had recently said it will begin direct petroleum sales with the Canadian Government without the intermediation of transnational companies.

BRIEFS

DRUG, MARIHUANA CAPTURE--The Venezuelan Judicial Technical Police Antidrug Directorate agents have seized marihuana and amphetamines valued at almost 1 million bolivares. The police confiscated 150 pounds of marihuana, 3,000 (?Mandrake) pills, 4 knives and an automobile. The arrested gangsters were identified as Rafael Soto Romos, Hilario Jose Gutierrez, Ana Maria Bernal Gonzalez and Ramon Eduardo Lobo. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 9 May 79 PA]

PRESIDENT ROYO TO VISIT EAST EUROPE SOON

PA100406 Paris AFP in Spanish 1551 GMT 9 May 79 PA

[Text] Paris, 9 May (AFP)--Panamanian President Aristides Royo will soon visit Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia, as the president himself said here today in an exclusive interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE shortly before leaving for Washington. "The Panamanian cause enjoys great support from the European socialist countries," he said, after noting that he obtained similar support from Great Britain, Spain, Italy, Belgium and France during his 15-day tour of Europe.

RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH SDAR

PA102016 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Excerpt] A joint communique was signed this morning by which the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and the Republic of Panama established diplomatic relations. Our colleagues Jose de Jesus Martinez and Eloida Martinez interviewed his excellency Mohammed Salem Ould Salek, information minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, regarding the diplomatic relations between the two countries. The following is a portion of the statements made by the Saharan information minister:

[Begin Salek recording] Today, 10 May, we signed at the Foreign Ministry an agreement to establish diplomatic relations between the Republic of Panama and the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. This is a historic event because it occurs on 10 May, which is a national day, a historic day for the Saharans. As you know, 10 May is the anniversary of the creation of the POLISARIO Front, which was created on 10 May 1973.

STATION CRITICIZES LOAN SIGNED BY ROYO

PA110009 Panama City Radio Mia Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Station commentary: "The Growth of the Foreign Debt"]

[Text] From the oldest of continents, Europe, came the news that, during one of the legs of his tour, Panamanian President Dr Aristides Royo signed a loan for $135 million to be invested in very important projects for the country's development. The news reached Panama in an atmosphere of ceremony, joy and economic appeal. The reports highlighted the benefits of the arrangement and the advantages to be drawn from it. It listed the official activities that would benefit from the signing of the loan and the great progress that this new economic measure of the incumbent administration would mean for the country.

Before making a quick review of the effects of this loan, we cannot forget to point out a very true fact within the framework of the country's sociopolitical development. The government which began on 11 October 1968 and the one which began on 11 October 1978 are one and the same. They are externally different but internally the same. For that reason we cannot talk about one without referring to the other.

Before this administration began--it should be understood here 11 October 1968--the foreign debt did not exceed $300 million despite the large number of loans outstanding. The preceding administrations were subjected to all sorts of epithets by those who began the new political era in the country. However, since then the foreign debt has exceeded the $2.5 billion mark, thus seriously harming the national economy.

Many of those millions juggled into the foreign debt picture have often been used for social welfare projects. There is no doubt about that. Nor is there any doubt that other millions have been invested in projects which have turned out to be flops and a sort of bottomless pit. The purpose of those loans has not been achieved and, instead of contributing to strengthening our economy through an accelerated advancement toward development, they have continued undermining that development and those facts.

An administration which is off balance at all levels disbursed those millions without the expected result. Now news dispatches clearly tell us that another $135 million will arrive for goals which will probably not be reached as experience shows. Another 135 million will come to scandalously raise the foreign debt of a country which has not reported a single iota of economic growth. Despite the plausible objectives pointed out as the fundamental reason for the economic arrangement made by the president of the republic, we are worried because the national foreign debt is growing through the incomprehensible mortgaging of future generations.

PARTY URGES COUNTRY'S DEMOCRATIZATION

PA102348 Panama City Radio Hogar in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 May 79 PA

[Agrarian Labor Party communique; date not given]

[Excerpts] The Torrijos-Carter treaties were approved by the U.S. Senate after a number of amendments were attached and many problems overcome, thanks to the leadership displayed by members of the Democratic majority and Republican minority in the Senate. If we all remember, the Senators who opposed the treaties based their arguments on the fact that the people of the United States were giving up the canal to a country governed and dominated by a leftist military dictatorship. When the leaders of the Senate visited Panama, it was understood that Torrijos, supported by the heads of state of neighboring countries, would democratize Panama and restore the guarantees that would create the climate of tranquillity and peace with respect to the canal issue, so that the Senate would approve the treaty. It was agreed that these changes leading to the restoration of democracy in Panama would be carried out in a period of approximately 2 years.

Within this period, General Torrijos managed to pass some constitutional amendments and the law on political parties in an effort to fulfill his part of the bargain. At the same time Torrijos publicly announced that the military boot would never again prevail in Panama over the will of the people expressed by their votes honestly counted at the polls. However, the Panamanian people through their political, economic and social organizations have expressed their dissatisfaction with the alleged democratization of the country and believe that the amendments and laws that have been passed do not provide the guarantees necessary for an authentic democracy.

If Panama expects to see the Torrijos-Carter treaties go into effect, it is necessary that the Panamanian Government fulfill the agreement to establish in Panama all the democratic conditions indispensable for the union of the entire Panamanian family so that it can work peacefully toward assuming the responsibilities stemming from the treaties and at the same time develop the spirit of cooperation and sacrifice needed for the restructuring and reconstruction of a country burdened by the largest public debt that an underdeveloped country with few natural resources has ever faced.

Despite the difficulties facing the treaties, before the Panamanian people start on any crusade, this government must first make the real and honest changes that are needed for an authentic democracy and fulfill the words of General Torrijos who said that only the people's vote will prevail in Panama. Once we have democracy in our country, the leaders of the U.S. Senate and President Carter's administration will have the conditions they need to exercise all their political power for the implementation of the treaties.

COSTA RICA

SALVADORANS GIVEN POLITICAL REFUGEE STATUS

PA110412 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Text] The Costa Rican attorney generals' office will not press charges against the three Salvadorans who invaded the Costa Rican Embassy in El Salvador. Justice Minister Elisabeth Odio said that as far as she is concerned they represent a legal case of asylum because the members of the People's Revolutionary Bloc entered the Costa Rican Embassy for political reasons. Therefore no judicial action of any kind will be taken against the three Salvadorans.

OCCUPATION OF SALVADORAN CONSULATE IN SAN JOSE

PA102122 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2058 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 10 May (ACAN-EFE)--A group of youths this afternoon occupied the Salvadoran Consulate in San Jose. Radio Monumental reported the action a few minutes ago and an unidentified woman subsequently called the ACAN-EFE office to confirm it. In a calm voice, the woman said: "A group of Costa Ricans has occupied the Salvadoran Consulate in San Jose, from where I am speaking."

Questioned about the action, she said its aim is to support the members of the People's Revolutionary Bloc [BPR] who are occupying the French Embassy and a cathedral in El Salvador.

She indicated that they will remain in the consulate for an indefinite period and added that they are also protesting "the lack of human rights in El Salvador, the Salvadoran Government's massacre yesterday in San Salvador," the imprisonment of BPR members and the policies of "General Romero's fascist government." The woman indicated that the occupants of the consulate include students, professionals, public workers and other persons, all of them Costa Rican.

EL SALVADOR

FPL SEIZES RADIO INTERNATIONAL IN SAN SALVADOR

PA101610 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1533 GMT 10 May

[Text] San Salvador, 10 May (ACAN-EFE)--Members of the Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) today seized the studios of Radio International YSC with the intention of broadasting a subversive message. They failed, however, because the station's FM transmitter did not function.

The persons who seized ths studios, three men and three women, all young, identified themselves as FPL members. They held announcer Ana Brizuela at gunpoint as she was reading the news on "La Hora" newscast. Newsman Jorge Armando Contreras, who was preparing his newscast "The Truth on the Air," was also held at gunpoint.

Afterward, both were tied up and shut in the studio restroom. Messenger boy Napoleon Rojas was also tied up, but he managed to untie himself and afterward freed his companions. The police did not show up at the radio station. The FPL members left behind a communique which was made public 3 days ago warning nations of possible seizing of embassies and the attitudes of various governments.

BPR NEWS CONFERENCE ON CATHEDRAL VIOLENCE

PA101418 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2330 GMT 9 May 79 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 9 May (ACAN-EFE)--The police cordon surrounding San Salvador's downtown sector was withdrawn this afternoon, while the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc [BRP] reported that 19 persons had been killed. University and high school students and peasants were among the victims, [words indistinct] BPR members said this at a news conference. They also denied that they fired at the police. "One just has to look at the victims to see that they were all shot in the back," they said.

"When we arrived at the cathedral, the police were already in Barrios Square. We sat down facing the front of the church and shortly thereafter a truckload of police arrived; then the shooting started," they told newsmen. The news conference was held at the General Association of Salvadoran University Students (AGEUS) headquarters at the University of El Salvador in the northern part of the city.

NICARAGUA

PANAMA WARNED ON SUPPLY OF ARMS TO GUERRILLAS

PA110456 Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0430 GMT 11 May 79 PA

[Text] The Nicaraguan presidency's Information and Press Secretariat advises the Nicaraguan people of the following communique:

The Foreign Ministry has noted with serious concern the latest events, which are public knowledge, concerning the participation of the Panamanian Government in the supply of arms to subversive forces and groups of terrorists which are attacking the legitimately established Nicaraguan Government. This has been made evident in legal proceedings underway in a third country. On different occasions the highest Nicaraguan authorities have denounced this interference by the Panamanian Government in the internal affairs of Nicaragua through different means, which flagrantly contravenes the norms which regulate the relations among states.

These actions by the Panamanian Government have in recent months contributed to serious public order disturbances. So-called international brigades have even been openly organized in Panama and these have joined the ranks of terrorists with the support of Panamanian Government officials. The Foreign Ministry cannot ignore attributing the responsibility which the Panamanian Government incurs and urges the governments which manufacture these arms to take the necessary precautionary measures to prevent these from being used for purposes which violate fundamental principles of international law.

NATIONAL GUARD DENIES KILLING 30 PEASANTS

PA100349 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0229 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Communique No 34 issued by the National Guard Legal and Public Relations Office in Managua on 9 May 1979--read by announcer]

[Text] With regard to the false report [words indistinct] to misinform Nicaraguans and slander our army, the Nicaraguan National Guard Legal and Public Relations Office states that it is groundless and that it is absolutely false that National Guard units ambushed and killed 30 peasants who were riding on mules and walking from (Torobay) farm and nearby localities to the Nueva Guinea command, about 69 km away, to join the National Guard.

It is an incontrovertible truth that the insidious rumors on which the newspaper LA PRENSA bases its reports have served the unpatriotic international campaign waged by the enemies of our country. This office will opportunely report on the military patrol operations in the Nueva Guinea region for the information of all the citizens.

REPORT ON FSLN: TWO REFUGEES IN COLOMBIAN EMBASSY

PA100347 Paris AFP in Spanish 2306 GMT 9 May 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 May (AFP)--Several clashes erupted in Matagalpa, 130 km north of Managua, today between the army and the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), it was officially reported. Fighting was still going on at 1330 (1930 GMT) in the neighborhoods of Guanuca and El Laborillo, in the western part of the city, with no casualties so far.

The city was deserted at noon because the frightened population locked themselves in their homes. An armored vehicle of the local command later clashed with a group of FSLN members. The armed confrontation occurred shortly after the army arrested several prominent opposition figures, including doctors Cesar Amador, Jorge Ruiz and Johnston Serrano. The guerillas also made a foray into Masaya, 30 km east of Managua, where they damaged the state power facilities and service was cut off.

Meanwhile, the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA reported today that soldiers from other countries in Central America are fighting in Nicaragua against the Sandinist guerrillas. Honduran soldier Alland Antonio Alvarez died wearing a Nicaraguan National Guard uniform a few days ago in an ambush in Eastern Managua, the newspaper reported.

In an underground communique, the FSLN said, in turn, that "the armed struggle is now being waged on five fronts, which cover the departments of Chontales, Zelaya and [Rio] San Juan (in the eastern and northeastern parts of the country). The Sandinists also admitted the deaths in combat of five of their members, including Italian Sergio Spanelli, whom they call an "international brigade member."

A group of Sandinists, led by a woman, made an incursion into Amatitan, 70 km west of the capital, killing two paramilitary individuals, while three other people died during incidents connected with political violence in several parts of the country, it was learned here today. Three youths, including a woman, sought asylum at the Colombian Embassy today, bringing the total of refugees at that embassy to 20. Their identities are not known.

CATHOLIC TEACHERS PROMOTE STUDENT STRIKES

PA091538 Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0430 GMT 9 May 79 PA

[Text] The so-called National Federation of Catholic Teachers [FENEC], together with the United People's Movement [MPU], of Marxist leaning, is propitiating an unjustified climate of students strikes in the country. FENEC is disregarding the money that parents have spent and is playing the game of the education industrialists, that is, the private schools. According to parents, FENEC should use its energies not in politicking and in promoting fruitless student strikes but in protesting the unwarranted increase in the cost of school materials. FENEC would be more useful in criticizing private schools than in pushing students into unjustified strikes that affect the students' future.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS U.S.-PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

FL101509 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 May 79 FL

[Carlos Mora Hernan commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Government does not seem too willing to comply with the Panama Canal treaties it signed on 7 September 1977. The signing of the treaties ended the first part of a battle waged by North American President James Carter in a search to improve his foreign and domestic image. The conspiracy against the Panamanian people continued after the signing of the treaties 2 years ago. A number of amendments to the treaties introduced by North American Congressmen have the objective of disregarding Panama's rights as a sovereign and independent state. Once again in this Panama Canal problem the gap between words and deed in Washington's policy stands out, as does the imperialist leaders' lack of scruples when they defend their economic interests.

On 28 April Panamanian President Aristides Royo stated in a letter to his North American counterpart, James Carter, that the bills on implementing the canal treaties being discussed by the U.S. Congress were in open opposition to the spirit, objectives and goals of the documents signed in 1977 and ratified by the Yankee Senate itself. In his letter Royo added that many of the North American Congressmen's positions ostensibly contradict the fundamental stipulations of the treaties. Diogenes de la Rosa, member of the top-level delegation discussing conceptual aspects of the application of the canal agreements with the United States, said that even though the agreements are irreversible, the United States is trying to pass laws contrary to the treaties' contents. Even though the treaties were signed in 1977 and afterward ratified by the Senate, the laws and appropriations for implementation must be submitted to the House of Representatives for approval, according to that country's Constitution.

And it is there, in the House of Representatives, where the most reactionary sectors of the United States are waging the battle against Panama. The members of the House of Representatives are discussing and approving laws aimed at hurting Panama economically, changing the nature of the 1977 treaties and ignoring the sovereignty of the Panamanian state over its own territory. From late March to early April the House of Representatives approved two bills under which military assistance to Panama and its possibilities of obtaining benefits from operation of the canal are eliminated. At the same time, U.S. military participation in the adjacent zone is increased.

According to the treaties signed in 1977, Panama should receive income from three sources: Part of the revenues obtained from the passage of ships through the canal, $18 million annually for services Panama will provide in the canal and the zone and another almost $10 million from the surpluses in the operations of the enterprise that operates the canal.

The anti-treaties strategy of a large number of North American Congressmen is based on two aspects: Approval of laws that restrict economic benefits for Panama, and total or partial invalidation of the treaties by means of the enactment of laws which increase Yankee influence during the transition phase until the year 2000, when the canal and the zone must come under the total jurisdiction of Panama.

Sectors of the Panamanian oligarchy, headed by broken-down and corrupt leaders, are plotting against the Panamanian Government to paralize the decolonization process. This is the classic conspiracy of the internal reactionaries with Yankee imperialism and the traditional positions of traitors against their country and people. Solidarity with the Panamanian people in the face of this destabilizating maneuver by imperialism is imperative now.

BLAS ROCA CONTINUES VISIT TO BULGARIA

FL100138 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 May 79 FL

[Text] Blas Roca, president of the National Peoples Government Assembly, today laid a floral wreath at the Georgi Dimitrov monument in Sofia, Bulgaria. The Cuban parliamentary leader, who is also a member of the PCC Politburo, today arrived in Sofia for an official visit at the invitation of Vladimir Bonev, chairman of Bulgaria's highest legislative body.

Decoration Ceremony

FL110113 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 May 79 FL

[Excerpts] Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of State, today presented Blas Roca, president of the National Peoples Government Assembly, with the Georgi Dimitrov Order. At the ceremony the first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party stated that the top award presented by Bulgaria was presented to the Cuban leader for his longtime activities in the struggle for peace and the great contributions in the development and consolidation of relations between the two countries.

In expressing his thanks for the award, Blas Roca said he accepted it as a high honor for his party and the Cuban people, who march shoulder to shoulder with the Bulgarian people in building the new socialist society.

39 VILLA CLARA PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS REPLACED

FL110046 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 May 79 FL

[Text] Thirty-nine Villa Clara leaders and officials have been removed from their positions for violating State Committee for Labor and Social Security Law No 12, which deals with the establishment of salaries. This information was announced at a meeting held by the work inspection territorial delegation in Villa Clara Province. Among the topics discussed at the meeting, which was held at the Peoples Government Municipal Assembly headquarters in Santa Clara, were investigation of the labor and social security legislation and technical inspection of occupational safety.

URUGUAY SUGAR MILL RESUMES NORMAL OPERATIONS

FL091053 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 May 79 FL

[Text] Sancti Spiritus' Uruguay sugar mill resumed operations Tuesday afternoon after repair of damage caused by the collapse of a molasses tank was completed. Six workers were killed and 13 seriously injured in that accident. The mill's workers have replaced a large number of damage tubing and repaired damage to the area where the boiler room is located. The workers pledged to remain active with the same spirit with which they fulfilled last Sunday's production programuntil the last piece of sugarcane is ground.

BAHAMAS

AEROFLOT PLANES LAND AT NASSAU AIRPORT

FL101540 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 7 May 79 p 1 FL

[Text] Four Aeroflot Russian aircraft jetted into Nassau International Airport over the weekend. Today external affairs authorities claimed they know nothing about the matter. Director of Civil Aviation Don Ingraham also said he did not know why the planes are here. But he said it was not unusual for planes from Russia to stop here for refuelling.

Recently Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley visited Russia and entered into a new trade pact with the communist country. The Russians also announced they would soon be starting a scheduled Aeroflot service to Jamaica from Moscow.

It's understood the Aeroflot planes are bound for Cuba and may be taking spare parts and technicians to Havana in preparation for the opening of the Aeroflot service. But no information was available from Bahamas Government officials about the Russian planes or how long they are staying here.

JAMAICA

PNP LEADER EXPLAINS ANTI-IMPERIALISM POLICY

FL101652 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1630 GMT 10 May 79 FL

[Text] PNP [People's National Party] General Secretary Ralph Brown has called on all well-thinking Jamaicans to understand that although the government is against imperialism it doesn't single out any one country.

Speaking in Montego Bay yesterday, Mr Brown said he was commenting on the government's stand on the matter because of certain existing situations. His statement followed concern expressed by the prime minister about the anti-imperialist resolution adopted by the Portland Parish Council last month. Mr Brown maintained that the government believes that imperialism is destructive and is against the system in all its forms. He also pointed out that government hated exploitation and racism.

The PNP general secretary called for an end to political fighting which, he said, wasn't doing the country any good. And he added that the future of Jamaica rested on the support of everyone. Giving examples, Mr Brown (?said) this would result in the Jamaica Manufacturers Association inheriting a better economy and would also mean benefits to the JLP [Jamaica Labor Party] if that party came into power.

SAINT VINCENT

PREMIER TO SEEK MORE AID FROM TRINIDAD

FL101948 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1930 GMT 10 May 79 FL

[Excerpts] Saint Vincent Premier Milton Cato has said he is going to Trinidad and Tobago for talks with Prime Minister Eric Williams about the possibility of further aid in the Soufriere volcano crisis. With its substantial oil earnings, Trinidad and Tobago has one of the Caribbean's most viable economies.

Trinidad, Barbados, Jamaica, Guyana and other regional states, as well as Britain, the United States and Canada, have already given assistance to Saint Vincent. Premier Cato made the disclosure of his Trinidadian visit last night (?after) Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams ended a 1-day visit to Saint Vincent.

ECUADOR

PRODUCTION OF EASTERN OILFIELDS CUT IN HALF

PA102022 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Excerpt] The Natural Resources Ministry has ordered that production of the eastern oilfields be reduced from 217,000 to 108,000 barrels a day. According to the ministry, the measure is aimed at conserving Ecuador's oil resources and is based on technical recommendations.

RIGHTS OF POLITICAL MINORITIES GUARANTEED

PA102020 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 10 May 79 PA

[Excerpt] The Supreme Electoral Tribunal has defended the right of [political] minorities to representation in congress. The Electoral Tribunal released a communique explaining a recent interpretation of the law guaranteeing the election of deputies who, without a large percentage of votes, collect enough votes to rank immediately behind the winners. This interpretation was challenged by the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP] on the grounds that it jeopardizes its interests and opens the way to attempts to commit fraud. The communique, made known to Radio Quito by Tribunal President Gustavo Chavez Estrella gives many explanations and details about the interpretation of the law. He also rejected the insults which, he said, stem primarily from those who will benefit the most from this honest action.

MEXICO

CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT TO VISIT DURING 1979

PA091504 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0315 GMT 9 May 79 PA

[Text] Czechoslovak Ambassador Zdenek Hradec has announced that Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak will visit Mexico this year although no date has been set for the visit. The ambassador said that Czechoslovakia will support Mexico's proposals on the utilization of energy resources as the patrimony of and for the benefit of all peoples of the world. His nation will support this position in the United Nations, he said.

PARAGUAY

PAPER REPORTS ARREST OF OPPOSITION COUPLE

PY102111 Asuncion EL PUEBLO in Spanish 10 May 79 p 6 PY

[Excerpts] Alfonso Silva and Saturnina Almada were arrested by members of the Investigations Department (in civilian clothes) early on the morning of 8 May and the reasons for their arrest and the place where they are being held are not known. Once again the political police of the regime are practicing their methods of aggression against those who struggle against dictatorship. But there is a limit to this. It is time to put an end to arbitrary procedures and constant violations of human rights.

LAINO PUBLISHES NEW BOOK ATTACKING REGIME

PY102047 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 10 May 79 p 2 PY

[Excerpt] "Paraguay: Repression, Fraud and Anticommunism" is the title of the new book written by Domingo Laino. The book will come out tomorrow. The promotion of the book will take place during a ceremony to be held at 1930 at 596 Espana Avenue.

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